ALL NEW

YOU COULD BE A WINNER IN THE SECOND SUPERMAN MOVIE CONTEST!

DETAILS INSIDE!

NOW 40¢

NO. 13
FEB.

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MEN OF WAR

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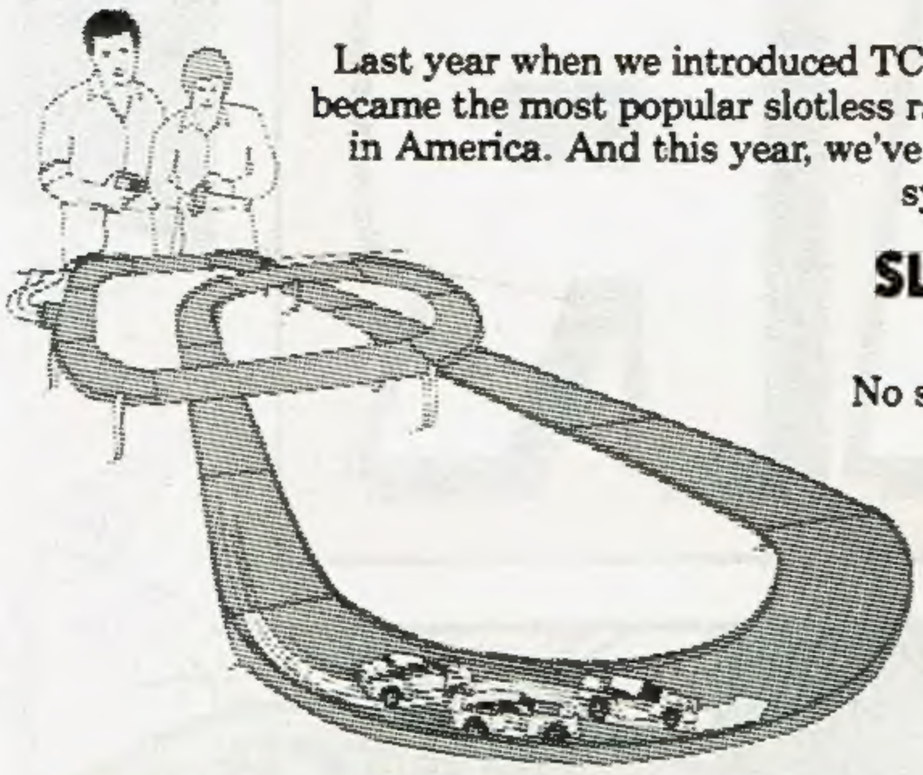
READ WHY *TCR*® IS AMERICA'S MOST EXCITING SLOTLESS RACING SYSTEM.



Last year when we introduced TCR® it quickly became the most popular slotless racing system in America. And this year, we've made the #1 system better.

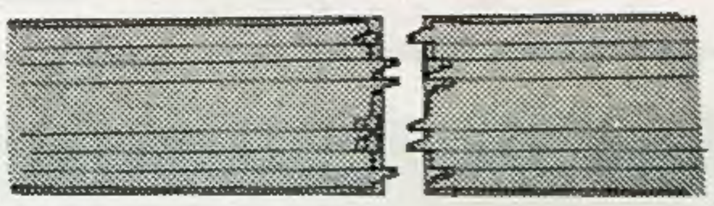
SLOTLESS TRACK.

No slots. No lane dividers. TCR's designed for wide open racing, with cars free to pass on the left or right.

THE JAM CAR.™

A slotless third car on the track. Taking its power from the track, the Jam Car moves independently, at two-thirds the speed of the driver controlled cars, constantly circling the track like a pack of lapped cars. It's like a car in trouble that tests your passing skills, lap after lap... and only TCR's got it.

THE TRACK/ QUICK ASSEMBLY.

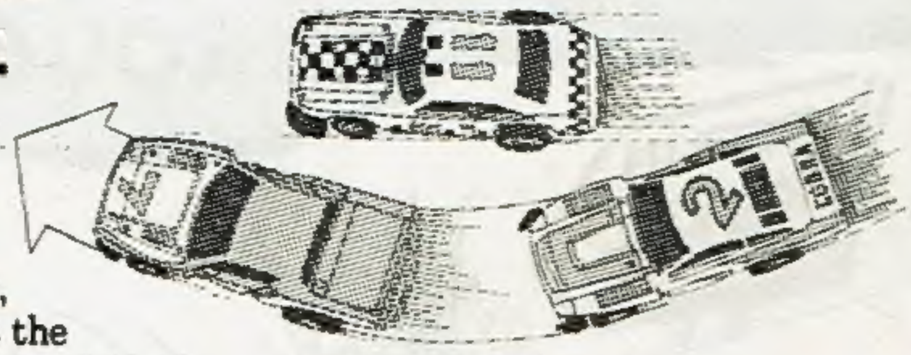


A cinch to put together. Within five minutes you can be ready to race. And TCR track is just as easy to take apart. But once it's together, the connections are so secure you can concentrate on more important things — like racing.

SPEED ON THE CURVES/STAY ON THE TRACK.

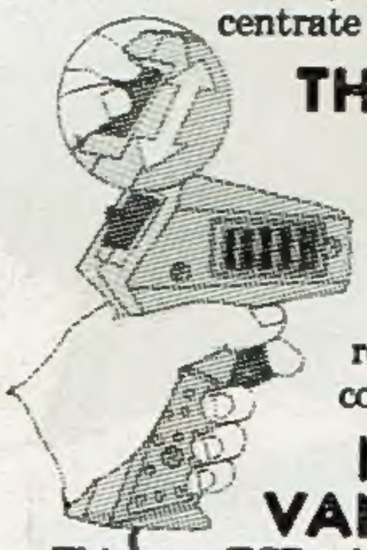
90° curves engineered so TCR cars stay on the track even at scale speeds of 275 MPH, without t-bars or tunnels to hide the action.

PASSING.



Realistic passing on the left or right. Your car can swing out of one lane, accelerate past the slower car, then tuck back into the original lane. That's realistic passing!

THE LANE CHANGING SWITCH.



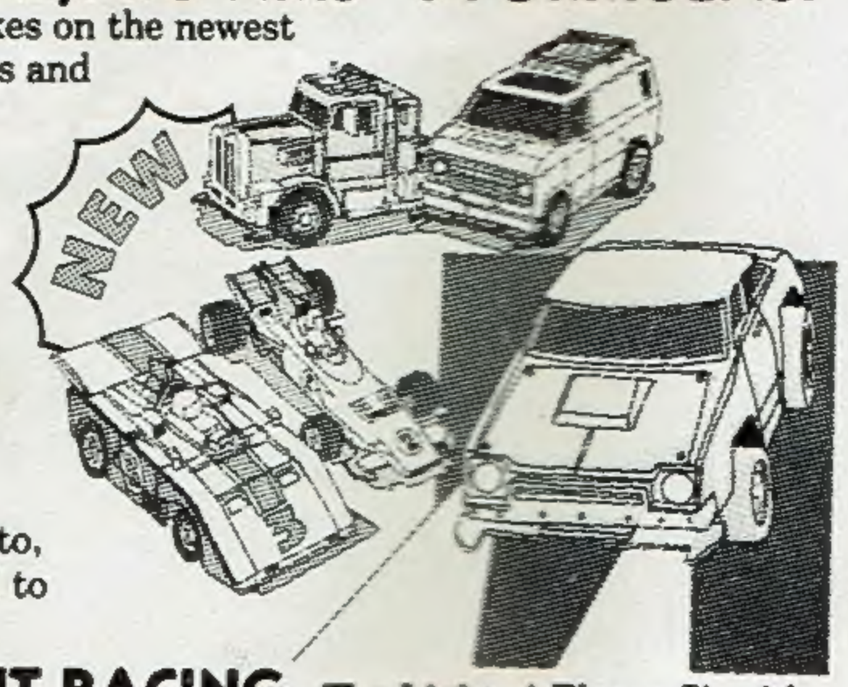
Hit it and your car digs out to pass. With no break in power, no loss of speed.

THE SPEED TRIGGER.

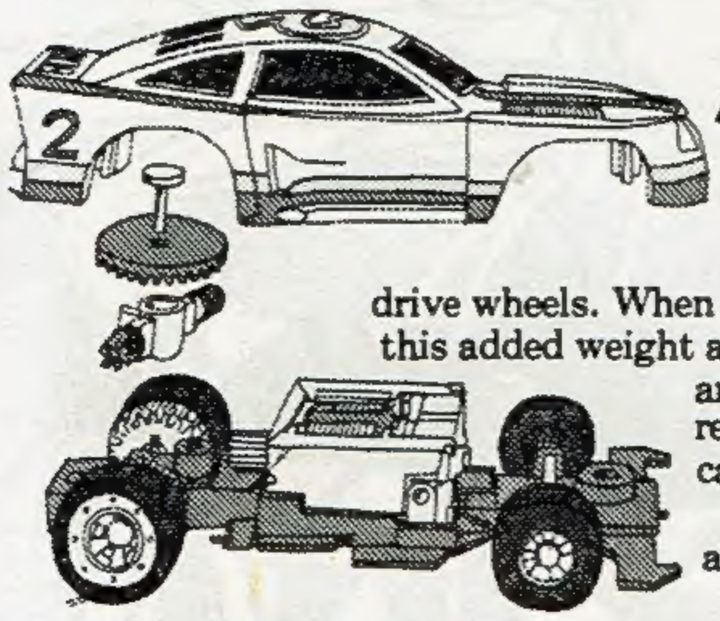
Depress it, like the gas pedal, and your car speeds up realistically. Let off, and your car does too, coasting like a real road racer.

NEW: TRUCK RACING RIGS,™ VANS, PRO AMS™ & FORMULAS.

This year TCR takes on the newest racing craze—vans and truck racing rigs. As well as the popular Pro Ams, Formulas, Stocks and Rat Traps.® That's not all, TCR even offers a *two* Jam Car set, so now, whatever style of racing you're into, TCR's got a model to keep up with you.



REALISTIC ACCELERATION/ DECELERATION.

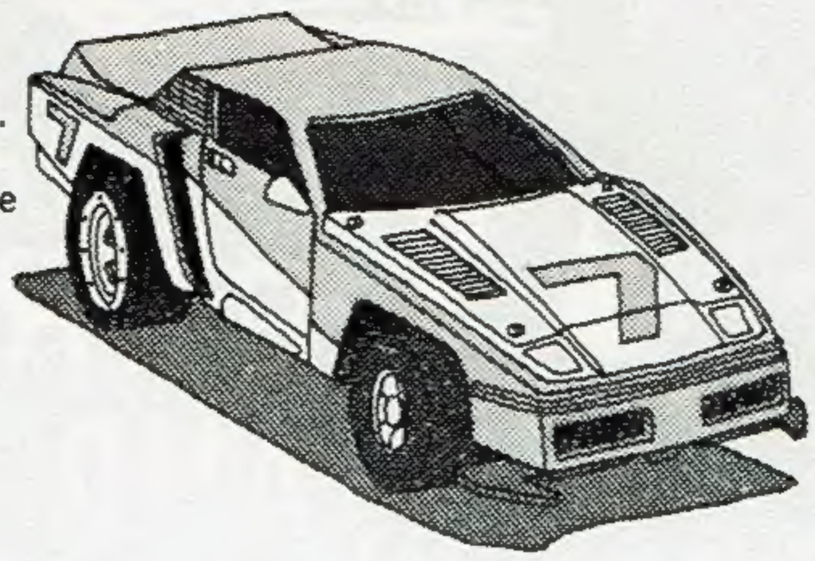


TCR cars are equipped with die cast metal drive wheels. When you hit the Speed Trigger, this added weight allows realistic acceleration and deceleration. Just like a real racer. And because your car responds so quickly, you have to constantly plan ahead to stay out of trouble.

THE DRIVE TRAIN.

It's dual-shifting, which allows the power to go from one rear wheel to the other. It's the TCR innovation that lets you pass left or right.

HO SCALE.



Each car is modeled with authentic detail. But don't let the good looks fool you. Because these cars are ruggedly constructed for racing at scale speeds of 275 MPH!

NEW: NIGHT RACING.

The Lighted Blazers,™ with headlights that allow both day and night racing. In addition to headlights, these new cars come equipped with special phosphorescent bodies that glow in the dark and fluorescent billboards to add excitement to the background.

8 DIFFERENT SETS.

Not everyone's into the same kind of race, so TCR gives you a choice. Ask your local TCR Dealer to show you his selection.

TCR®

IDEAL

TOTAL CONTROL RACING™

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HANDLER OF THE DEAD: A RATHER IGNOBLE POSITION FOR A MAN SOON TO BECOME LEGEND. BUT THEN, NO ONE EVER SAID THAT WAR IS LONG ON LOGIC. JUST ASK ULYSSES HAZARD, A MAN WHO HAD TO FIGHT NOT ONLY THE ENEMY--BUT HIS OWN COUNTRY--TO EARN THE...

CODE NAME: gravedigger

JACK C. HARRIS – WRITER * DICK AYERS & ROMEO TANGHAL – ARTISTS * JERRY SERPE - COLORIST
BEN ODA - LETTERER * PAUL LEVITZ - EDITOR

SUMMER, 1942--AND THIS IS *ONE* STORY YOU *WON'T* FIND IN WORLD WAR II'S BLOODY HISTORY...

BERLIN 14

RATATATATAT

ARRAGH!

BACK OFF, GOOSE-STEPPERS--GRAVEDIGGER'S COMIN' THROUGH!

FOR THIS WAS A *SECRET MISSION*--THE BREACHING OF THE GERMAN CITADEL OF BERLIN ITSELF--AND THE *RESCUE* OF THE MYSTERIOUS BRITISH *MAJOR BIRCH*...

PROJECT GRAVEDIGGER--*PLUS ONE*

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Jenette Kahn, Publisher
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WATCH IT! TAKE IT *EASY*, BLOKE!

EASY? LISTEN, MAJOR--THREE OF *YOUR BOYS*--BRITISH COMMANDOS--GOT ME *INTO* GESTAPO HQ--AND LEFT IT UP TO *ME* TO GET YOU *OUT*--

BLAM *BLAM* *KABLOOM* *KA-BLOOM!*

--AND AH'M GONNA DO IT *MY* WAY!

AH JUST WISH AH KNEW *HOW!*

THIS GERMAN TRUCK WE SWIPED JUST *AIN'T* THE BEST MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AT THE *MOMENT*...

AN' WITH YOU BEIN' *CRIPPLED* AND ALL, AH'D SAY OUR CHANCES ARE ABOUT AS GOOD AS A RAT IN A CAT FIGHT!

NOW, NOW, MATE--DON'T COUNT *US* OUT YET!

KEATS! YOU GUYS ARE STILL *WITH US!?*

YOU GUYS *DIDN'T* DESERT ME! YOU'VE BEEN IN THE BACK O' THE TRUCK SINCE WE SMASHED OUT OF BERLIN!

WHO DO YOU THINK'S BEEN COVERING YOUR *REAR*, YANK?

YEAH? WELL, *THANKS*-- BUT NOW *AH'M* GONNA GET US ALL *OUTA* HERE--

--BY TURNIN' LEFT-- *NOW!*

MINUTES LATER, AS THE TRUCK CAREENS WILDLY FORWARD...

DAMN...

BA-DOOM

KA-

BLOOOM

THEY ARE DESTROYED-- CONSUMED BY THE VERY CARRIAGE IN WHICH THEY SOUGHT SANCTUARY*!

*FREELY TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN.-- PAUL!

MY SAINTED MOTHER-- YOU HAD US DITCH JUST IN TIME!

YEAH, BUT AH AIN'T NO HERO FROM ONE OF THEM *SATURDAY MORNIN' SERIALS*-- JUMPIN' OUT OF TRUCKS IN THE NICK OF TIME AIN'T MY USUAL *STYLE*--!

ONLY TROUBLE IS--AH DON'T HAVE A *HINT* AS TO WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO *NEXT!*

WE'RE ALL IN THIS *TOGETHER*, MATE-- BUT WE 'AVE TO 'AVE A *PLAN!*

WE'RE NOT TOO FAR FROM THE *AIRFIELD*-- WE COULD ACQUIRE ANOTHER *OPEL BLITZWAGEN!*

YER *NUTS!* WE JUST CRASHED THROUGH HELL AND BACK AND YOU WANNA SWIPE ANOTHER *TRUCK*--?

BUT WHAT ELSE IS THERE-- *NOW!?*

UNNGH!

ARRGH!

THUNK!

WE'VE HAD *ENOUGH* TROUBLE ON THE GROUND--

--NOW WE'RE TAKIN' TO THE *AIR!*

GERMAN *JUNKER 88'S*--

DIVE-BOMBERS!

4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

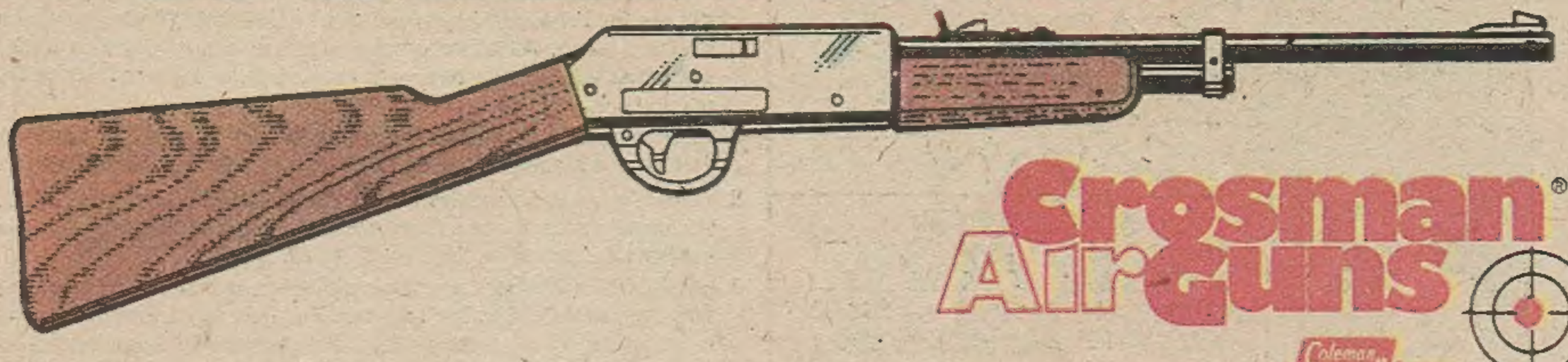
Introducing the Model 788 BB Scout... Crosman's new youth pump rifle!

Here's a pump rifle specially made for the young shooter...with quality only Crosman can give it. The new Model 788 is a lightweight, bolt action BB repeater. Its power is controlled by the number of pumps you give it. It holds up to 20 BBs in its easy-loading magazine. It's authentic-looking and very accurate. And best of all, it's built to last.

Pick up the new Crosman Model 788 BB Scout. It's the airgun a whole generation of shooters has been waiting for.

Quick-loading .BB port | Adjustable rear sight | Easy pump action

PICK UP A CROSMAN. YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT'S AN AIRGUN!



Crosman® Air Guns

A Coleman Company

SOMETHING NEW IS HAPPENING!

YOU COULD BE A WINNER IN THE SECOND SUPERMAN MOVIE CONTEST! DETAILS INSIDE
40¢
THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE!
THE FLASH
STARTING WITH THIS ISSUE — FLASH'S LIFE BEGINS TO CHANGE... AND IT WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!!

DIFFERENT... EXCITING!!

FLASH'S WHOLE WORLD BEGINS TO CRUMBLE... AND BARRY ALLEN'S LIFE TAKES SOME SURPRISING ↓TURNS↑ IN THE ISSUES TO COME!!

THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE!
40¢
THE FLASH
WE'LL BE LATE FOR THE PERFORMANCE, BARRY...WHAT'S KEEPING YOU?
HOW WILL I EVER EXPLAIN THIS TO HIS?

↑ON SALE NOW↑

↑COMING NEXT MONTH!↑

THE SECOND SUPERMAN THE MOVIE CONTEST!

FIRST PRIZE
THE ACTUAL *CAPE* WORN BY CHRISTOPHER REEVE IN THE FILMING OF *SUPERMAN THE MOVIE!*

10 SECOND PRIZES
A PAGE OF *ORIGINAL SUPERMAN ARTWORK!*

UNLIMITED THIRD PRIZES
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO YOUR FAVORITE *DC COMICS!*

ENTER TODAY!

THE RULES:

1. At the bottom of all DC Comics' letters and text pages dated JANUARY and FEBRUARY (FEBRUARY and MARCH in the case of the DC Dollar Comics) you will find one of 25 numbered trivia questions concerning the Superman Family of characters. To enter, simply answer all 25 questions correctly, listing the lettered answer to all 25 questions on the back of a postcard. Mail these postcards to "The Second Great Superman Movie Contest," DC Comics Inc., Post Office Box 116, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019.
2. Only ONE ENTRY per person will be accepted, and each entry MUST be on a postcard. In the event of more than one entry from a single contestant, all entries from that contestant will be invalid. Entries sent in envelopes will not be accepted.
3. All entries with correct answers to all 25 questions will be placed in the first and second prize drawings. The first card drawn will receive the actual cape worn by Christopher Reeve in the Warner Brothers' motion picture **SUPERMAN**. The next ten cards drawn will receive the second prize, one page of original **SUPERMAN** artwork drawn by Curt Swan. All other entries with correct answers to all 25 questions will receive two-year subscriptions to their favorite DC comic book.
4. All entries with correct answers to between 15 and 24 questions will receive a one-year subscription to their favorite DC comic book.
5. All entries must be received by DC Comics before January 2, 1979. The drawings for the one first prize and the ten second prizes will be held at DC Comics on January 8, 1979.
6. Employees of Warner Communications Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and DC Comics' free-lance artists, writers, colorists and letterers, any of the participating wholesalers of Independent News Company, and the immediate familes of those employees are specifically excluded from this contest.
7. Contest void where prohibited by law and subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. There are no age or racial restrictions; males and females are equally eligible to win.

THIS ONE'S WARMED UP, MATE--THE PILOT'S *YOURS!*

THANKS... MATE!

VIP VIP

ARRAAGH!

LEGS THAT WERE ONCE THE USELESS LIMBS OF A *CRIPPLE*--BUT THAT ARE NOW INVIGORATED BY A DETERMINATION ALMOST *BEYOND* HUMAN UNDERSTANDING--CARRY *ULYSSES HAZARD* UP... UP ONTO THE *WING* OF THE METAL HARBINGER OF DEATH--!

VAS--?

GONNA CUT YOUR LITTLE BOMBING RUN *SHORT*, FRITZ!

VIP

NEIN! NEIN!

SHE'S EMPTY NOW, BUT IT'LL BE A TIGHT SQUEEZE--THIS JOB ONLY SEATS FOUR!

THEN WE'LL HOLD OUR *BREATH*--! GRAB THE MAJOR! *HURRY!*

WHUMP

UH-OH--I DON'T THINK WE'RE CLEARED FOR TAKE-OFF--THAT PILOT WAS JUST *RE-POSITIONING* THIS CRATE!

RRRRRRAAARRR

NO MATTER, MATE! MY YEARS IN THE *RAF** WEREN'T FOR *NOTHING*, YOU KNOW!

*ROYAL AIR FORCE;- *PAUL*

EEEEEEEEAAARRRROOWWW

THAT *SOUND*--!

THAT'S *US*, CAPTAIN HAZARD! THEY'RE CALLED THE *TROMBONES OF JERICHO*--*SIRENS* ON THESE PLANES TO *SCARE* THE *WITS* OUT OF THEIR TARGETS...!

A HARROWING NIGHT FLIGHT OVER THE NORTH SEA LATER, THE STALWART GROUP FINALLY HAS TO ABANDON THEIR HIJACKED CRAFT...

THIS OPERATION MIGHT'VE BEEN MORE *IMPRESSIVE* IF WE HAD FIGGERED OUT SOME WAY OF *LANDIN'* THAT NAZI PLANE ON AN ENGLISH BEACH WITHOUT GETTIN' *SHOT DOWN*...

... INSTEAD OF HAVIN' TO JUMP OUT 'CAUSE WE RAN OUTA *GAS*--!

I'M JUST GLAD YOU FOUND ENOUGH *PARACHUTES*, CAPTAIN!

GREAT! HERE COMES THE *WELCOME COMMITTEE!*

HALT! ONE MOVE AND YOU'RE ALL *DEAD* MEN!

KA-POW

POW

YOU CAN PUT THE POP-GUN *DOWN*, SOLDIER-BOY--I JUST RESCUED ONE OF YOUR *SUPERIOR OFFICERS* HERE...

...AND BESIDES--I CAN'T BE NO *SPY*--! WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW A *NAZI* WITH MY KIND O' *TAN*?

YOU JUST KEEP QUIET, BLOKE...

I HATE TO DO THIS TO AN *ALLY*, BUT YA REALLY *HAVE* TO GIVE US A CHANCE TO *TALK!*

ARRAGH!

I JUST DONE YOUR LITTLE ARMY A *FAVOR*, AN' YOU WANNA SHOOT MY *HEAD* OFF!?

OOFFF!

UNNGH!

CAPTAIN!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYIN' TO *DO*--? THEY WANTED TO *KILL* US--!?

HE'S *BATTLE-FATIGUED*... GONE *BERSERK!*

KEATS! STOP HIM!

FOR LONG MINUTES THE MEN FIGHT, THE FEVER OF FATIGUE GRIPPING GRAVEDIGGER'S SENSES...

THE MAN'S A *POWERHOUSE*--! I CAN'T GET *CLOSE* TO 'IM!

BUT THEN...

REALLY HATE TO *DO* THIS, MATE -- AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH--!

KLUNK!

UNNNN--!

FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS, THE WORLD IS *DARK* FOR ULYSSES HAZARD ... AND HE IS UNAWARE THAT HE AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED TO WAR-TORN *LONDON*-- AND TO AN UNDER-GROUND *WAR ROOM* WHERE THEY ARE GREETED BY...

...*MR. UNDERSECRETARY!* IT IS A DISTINCT PLEASURE TO FINALLY MEET YOU FACE TO FACE!

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S *MUTUAL*, MAJOR BIRCH!

NOW IF YOU AND THE HIGHER ALLIED BRASS WANT ULYSSES HAZARD TO SPEARHEAD SOME VAST COMMANDO *OPERATION*, I WASH MY *HANDS* OF HIM!

I HAVE TO BE *FRANK* WITH YOU, MAJOR! WHEN ULYSSES HAZARD STORMED THE PENTAGON DEMANDING *COMBAT DUTY*,* I SENT HIM ON WHAT I BELIEVED TO BE *SUICIDE MISSIONS*...

I NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO *RETURN*.

*M.O.W. #2.--PAUL!

LET ME HEAR THAT *AGAIN*--ABOUT Y'ALL NOT EXPECTIN' ME TO COME *BACK!*

I SHOULD HAVE HAD YOU STOOD UP AGAINST THE WALL AND *SHOT* THAT DAY IN THE PENTAGON!

YEAH, YOU *SHOULDA!* 'CAUSE YOU AIN'T *NEVER* GONNA BE RID OF *THIS* SOLDIER, *MISTER* UNDERSECRETARY--!

GENTLEMEN! UNLESS I'M *SORELY* MISTAKEN, WE ARE ALL ON THE *SAME SIDE!*

MR. UNDERSECRETARY ... CAPTAIN HAZARD... YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED WE SET UP AN OFFICIAL "*PROJECT GRAVEDIGGER*" TO HANDLE A *PARTICULARLY* VITAL MISSION... AND YOU ARE BOTH INTRICATE *COGS* IN THE *MECHANICS* OF THAT OPERATION!

YOU ALREADY KNOW OF THE PROBLEM FACING US, MR. UNDERSECRETARY... AND WE'LL NEED YOU AS OUR *LIAISON* TO THE AMERICAN FORCES...

AND *YOU,* CAPTAIN-- YOU ARE IDEALLY *SUITED* FOR THIS MISSION...

YEAH... YEAH... AH'VE HEARD *THAT* BEFORE! AH'M GAME! AH DIG WORKIN' WITH *YOU* CATS-- AS LONG AS AH DON'T HAVE TO WORK DIRECTLY WITH *THIS* CLOWN, OKAY...

I KNOW YOU HATE *ME* MORE'N YOU DO THOSE *NAZI* CATS-- BUT SINCE I'LL BE IN THE FIELD AND YOU'LL BE IN A CUSHY *OFFICE,* WHY CAN'T WE BE *FRIENDS...?*

SHAKE IT! AH WON'T SQUEEZE *TOO* HARD!

8

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

ADVERTISEMENT

SUPERMAN in "AN UNBEATABLE POWER!"

MY BEAM OF KRYPTONITE WILL KEEP YOU POWERLESS, SUPERMAN. NOW NOTHING STANDS IN THE WAY OF MY PLANETARY CONQUEST!

WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP SUPERMAN. THERE'S NO ONE ELSE!

WE'VE GOT TO GET BIG DOME'S HANDS OFF THOSE CONTROLS!!

KRYPTONITE BEAM

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP HIS HANDS OFF *HOSTESS®* *TWINKIES®* *CAKES.*

I'D TAKE CARE OF YOU, SUPERMAN, BUT I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL OF *DELICIOUS* *TWINKIES CAKES.*

YOU'RE POWERLESS, BIG DOME. BUT I'M NOT. THANKS TO YOU KIDS!!!

DON'T THANK US, SUPERMAN. THANK *HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES.*

NO ONE CAN RESIST THIS *DELICIOUS GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE* AND *YUMMY CREAMED FILLING.*

TWINKIES CAKES HAVE A POWER ALL THEIR OWN!!!

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES

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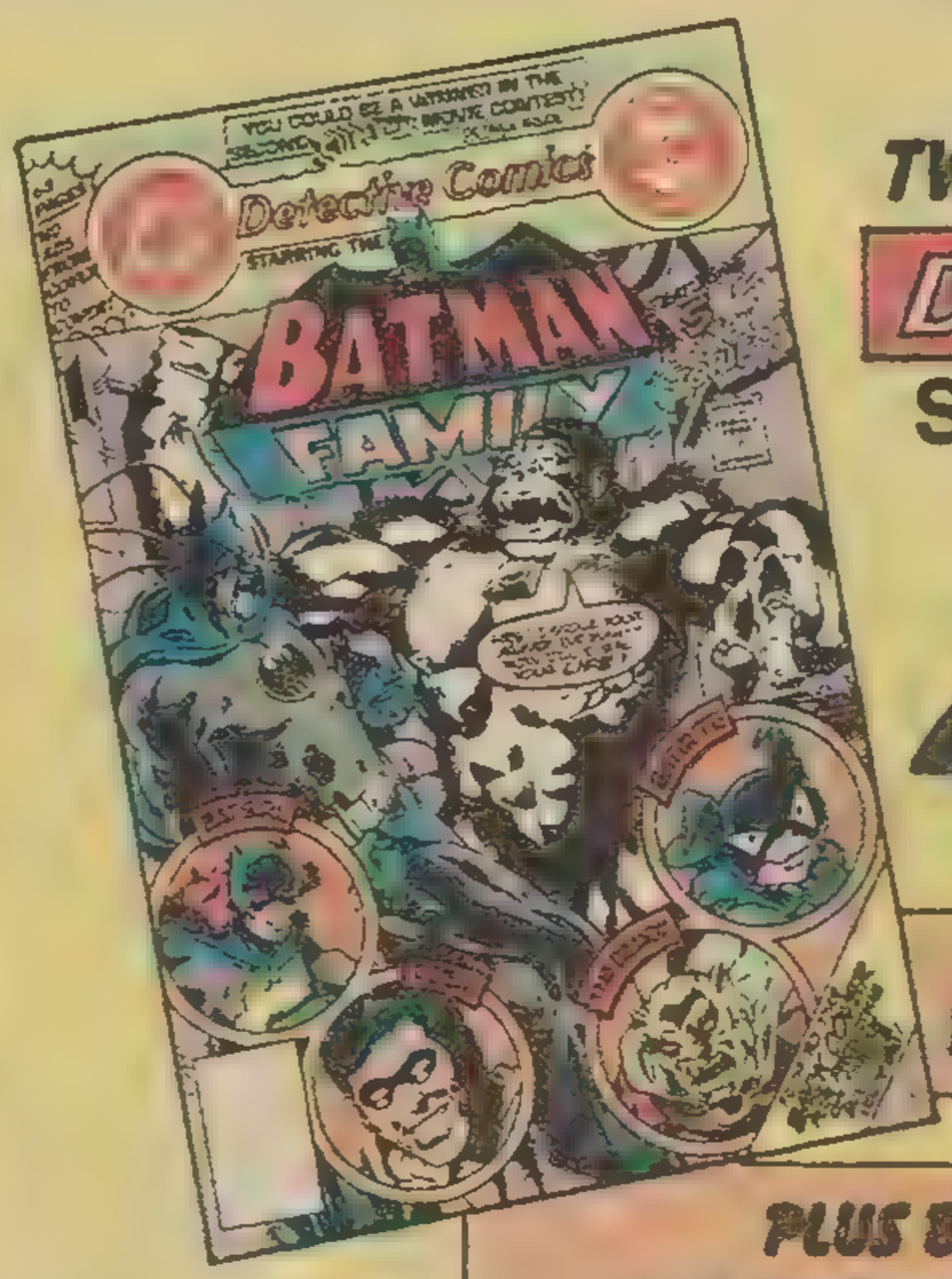

NOW!

TWICE THE EXCITMENT!

Detective Comics

Starring the entire

BATMAN FAMILY

Featuring
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PLUS BONUS FEATURES:
THE DEMON by Wein & Golden
AND **BAT-MITE'S N.Y. ADVENTURE!**

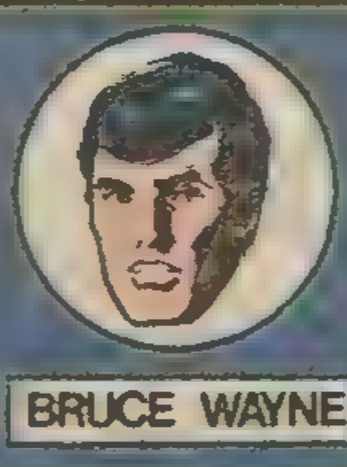
ON SALE NOW!

BATMAN

ROBIN

DEMON

HUMAN TARGET

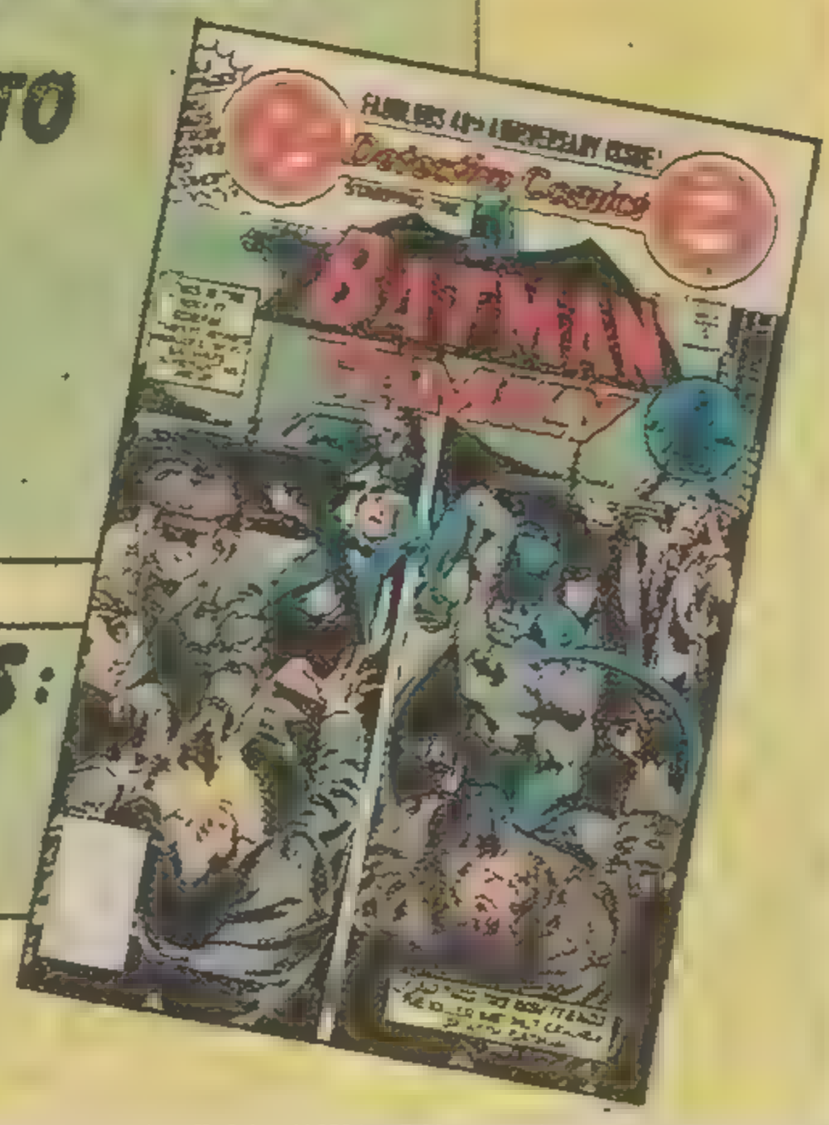

BRUCE WAYNE

COMMISSIONER GORDON

BATGIRL

AND COMING SOON... OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY!

BATMAN RETURNS TO CRIME ALLEY... WILL HE LEAVE IT CRIME FIGHTER... OR KILLER ?



PLUS BONUS FEATURES:
THE DEMON AND THE HUMAN TARGET

ON SALE IN MID-JANUARY

MAN-BAT

ALFRED

AN UNEASY *ALLIED ALLIANCE* IS FORMED... AND THE FIRST STEPS OF A *VITAL MISSION* ARE TAKEN IN THIS SECRET WAR ROOM BENEATH THE STREETS OF LONDON...

AND AS THE CITY *WINKS OUT*... BLACKING OUT ANY POSSIBLE TARGETS FOR THE AXIS POWERS, THE *PLANNING* GOES ON AND ON ... FAR INTO THE *EBONY NIGHT*...

BUT THERE ARE ALSO THOSE IN OTHER SECTORS OF EUROPE WHO ARE *ENRAGED* OVER THE BLOODY PATH THE COMMANDOS LEFT ON THEIR *PREVIOUS MISSION*...

PARTICULARLY IN *BERLIN*... STRONGHOLD OF NAZI GERMANY-- FROM WHERE GRAVEDIGGER HAS RESCUED MAJOR BIRCH ONLY *DAYS* BEFORE...

ESCAPED!? ESCAPED RIGHT THROUGH THE *ELITE* OF THE NAZI ARMY!?

TRUCKS AND PLANES *STOLEN*--OFFICERS AND MEN *SLAUGHTERED*-- ENEMIES OF THE REICH *ESCAPED*--!

--AND IT IS ALL THE DOING OF AN *INFERIOR AMERICAN NEGRO*--!?

I'LL NOT *STAND* FOR IT! DO YOU *HEAR*? IT SHALL NOT GO *UNAVENGED*!

JA, HERR GOEBBELS!

HE WILL BE *CRUSHED*-- CRUSHED AND HELD UP TO *RIDICULE* BEFORE THE WORLD!

JOSEPH GOEBBELS-- NUMBER TWO MAN IN NAZI GERMANY... MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA... *RACIST*...

...AND *MADMAN!*

I CARE *NOT* HOW IT IS DONE-- BUT YOU WILL PRESENT PLANS OF *ACTION* TO ME *FIRST THING* TOMORROW MORNING!

THIS...THIS *GRAVEDIGGER* WILL BE *SMASHED!*

JA, HERR GOEBBELS!

AT THAT MOMENT...MANY MILES *WEST* ON A SECLUDED BRITISH AIRFIELD...

THIS IS *IT*, CAPTAIN HAZARD--

--YOUR *FIRST RAID* UNDER "*PROJECT GRAVEDIGGER*"!

YEAH-- "*PROJECT GRAVEDIGGER--PLUS ONE*"! EITHER IT'LL BE ONE FOR THE *HISTORY BOOKS*, OR A GREAT THING TO CARVE ON MAH TOMBSTONE!

WHAT'CHA *STARIN' AT*, PILOT--?

THESE *BARS* READ "*CAPTAIN*"! SO LET'S GET THIS BIRD *UP!*

YES-- YES, *SIR!*

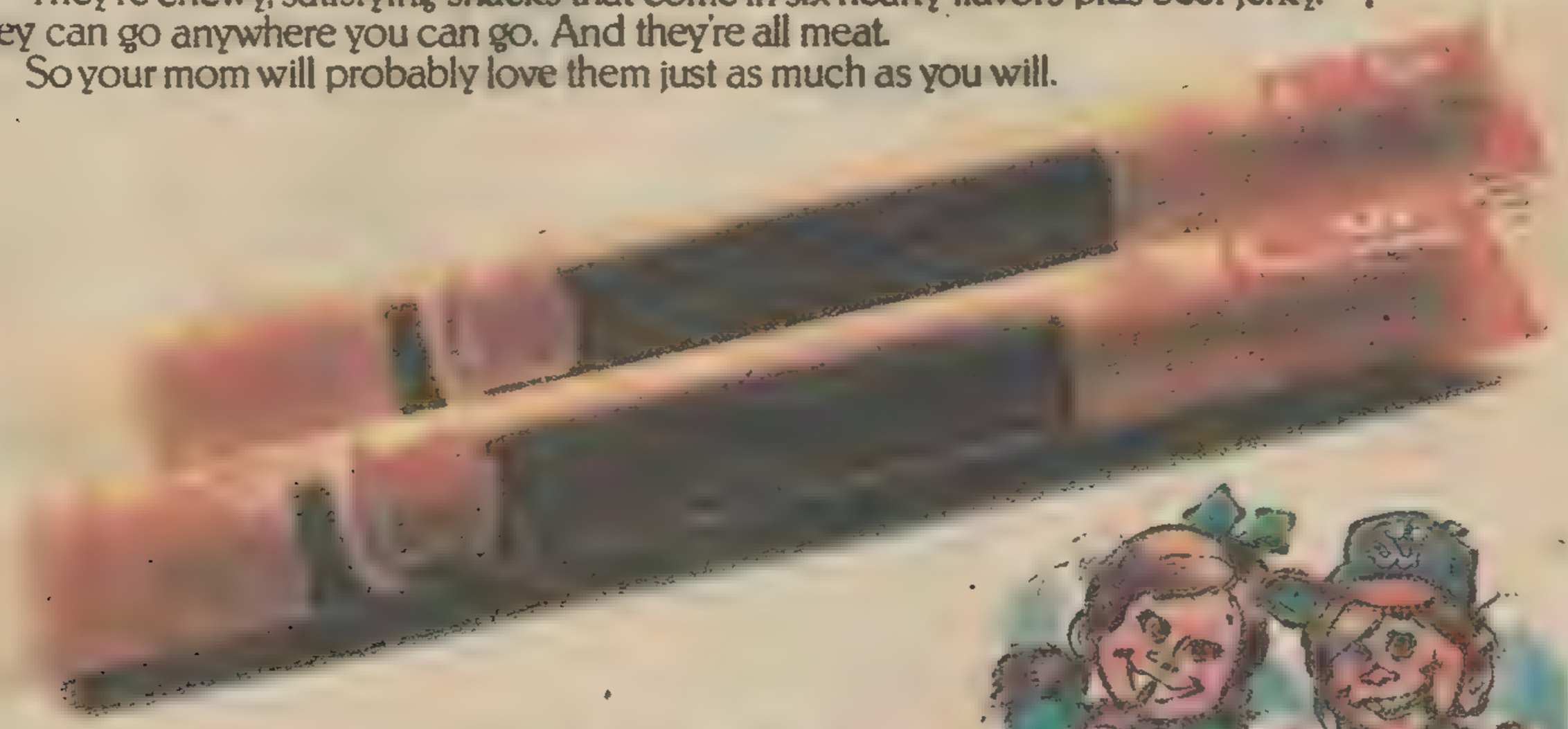
CONCLUDED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING

.PICK UP STICKS.

If your mom's been bugging you about sweet snacks, pick up Slim Jim® meat snacks at your neighborhood convenience store. Or ask her to pick them up, next time she's at the supermarket.

They're chewy, satisfying snacks that come in six hearty flavors plus beef jerky. They can go anywhere you can go. And they're all meat.

So your mom will probably love them just as much as you will.



slim jim

Remember How Many Times You Felt Left Out

Because You Were BROKE!

Places the gang was going and you weren't included. They all had money for movies, games, hamburgers and soft drinks . . . all of them except you.

WILL YOU'LL NEVER BE LEFT OUT AGAIN!

Have GRIT Sent Each Week. It's Filled With Money Ideas. Mail Coupon Today!

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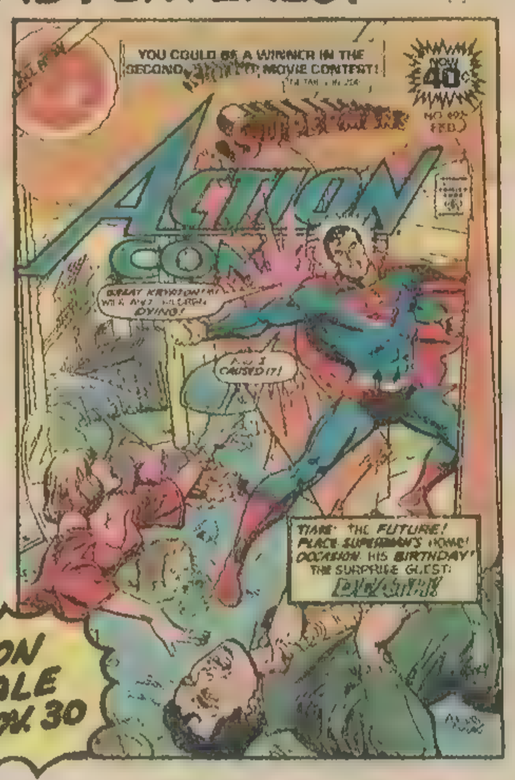
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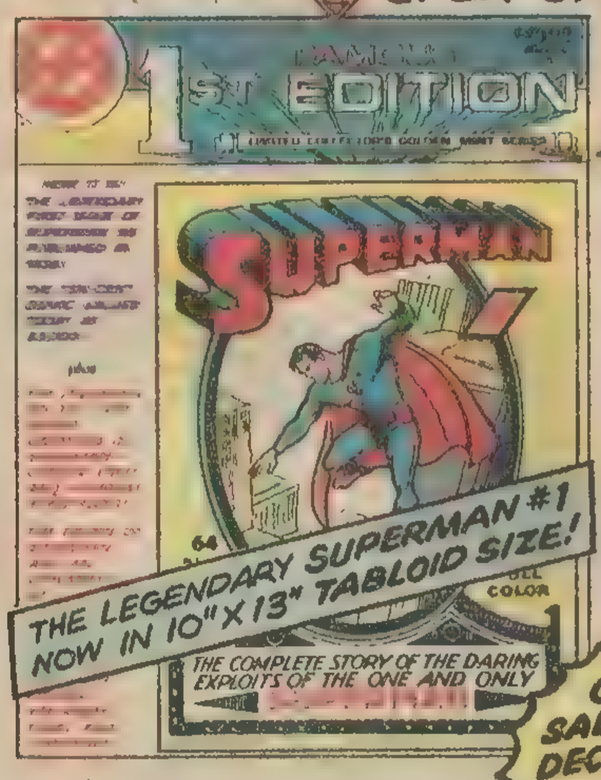
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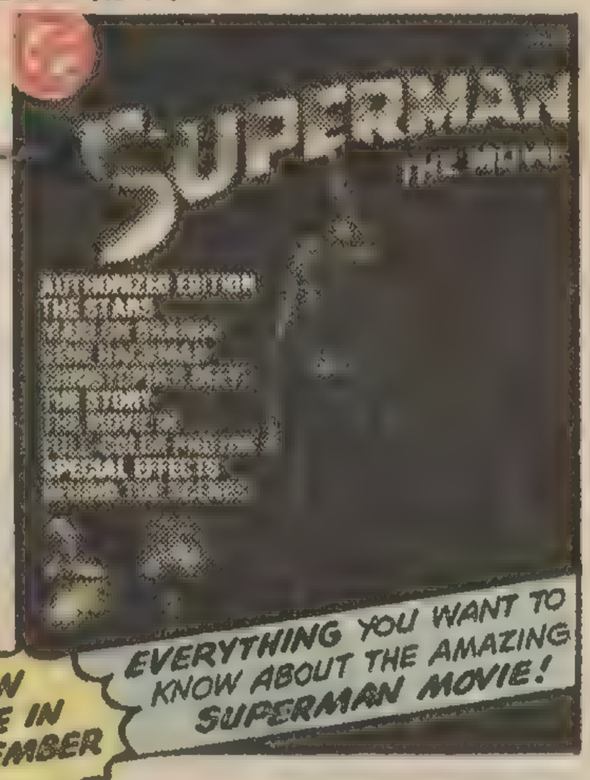

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"*THE SWIRLING SANDS OF* DEATH!"

END

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Dear Editor,

Some fans choose to ignore MEN OF WAR because it is packaged by an editor and written by some scripters who have never seen wartime battle. Actually, I tend to view this as a plus factor. I have never been on the front line either, so all of the details that a veteran like Kanigher or Boltinoff feels necessary to a story just slide right past me. I don't know one gun from another, and I don't really care for the intricacies of the Spanish American War soldier's gear. Sure, a lot of readers enjoy this stuff and I'm not saying hard-core war stories don't have their place in comics. I would just rather skip the details and get straight to the meat of the story. Since this is pretty much the approach taken to MEN OF WAR, I have kept the book on my reading list, even though I don't really care for war comics.

Artistically, MEN OF WAR doesn't do much for me. Dick Ayers is all right, but I don't drool over every panel. I've always thought Howie Chaykin was a bit too scratchy for my tastes. As for Jerry Grandenetti, somehow I keep seeing the spectre of the Geek and Prez lingering over his panels. Still, I can put up with these guys, and even start to like their stuff, because I've always been more concerned with plot than art anyway.

The GRAVEDIGGER series, for instance, is not particularly profound or even terribly imaginative. However, it is most assuredly fast-paced and gripping. I would estimate that it took me about 5 minutes to whip through the "R.I.P." story, which almost broke last issue's record of about 4 minutes. McKenzie doesn't clutter up his stories with a lot of copy, which helps the flow of the story though it tends to make his tales a bit confusing. For one thing, Hazard's character has been fairly efficiently ignored since Michelinie left the series. Whether this is intentional or not, I can't tell. The appearance of the Unknown Soldier was a rather obvious plot-twist since the ersatz Birch was depicted as the Nazi version of U.S.

ENEMY ACE is a rather strange series because it asks us to suspend our natural affections for our allies and instead accept Von Hammer as a gentleman and a scholar. After reading "Brother Killers", I could understand both why Enemy Ace has a cult following and why he has never made it as a full-fledged star. He is popular because he is introspective and noble, and he is unsuccessful as a head-liner because his series lacks hard-core action. After a few pages of hearing Von Hammer say, "A man must keep his self-respect at all times, even in the midst of the most barbaric of butcheries," I for one would like to see Von Hammer get pelted by enemy fire and then madly curse the British, whereupon he would blow the other guy out of the sky.

DATELINE: FRONTLINE is a feature I can identify with, being both an aspiring journalist and one naive to many underhanded restrictions put on the press during a war. Cary Burkett makes me feel like I'm right there with Clifford, experiencing the frustrations of trying to report what's going on. Burkett's writing style is totally lacking in pretentiousness and I would like to see more from him. If you must rotate this series, I hope you'll at least let Burkett create a new one to alternate with D:F. As of issue #9, DATELINE: FRONTLINE is carrying the book.

Finally, if I had my druthers, I would like to see DATELINE: FRONTLINE become the lead feature, backed up by the WAR THAT TIME FORGOT. Chew on that one, Paul.

Dave Blanchard
2709 Woodside Drive
Rockford, IL 61109

We're trying to put more power into the Gravedigger scripts with the able assistance of new scripter Jack Harris, who comes with army credentials (if in peacetime) and a fresh enthusiasm for the feature. Let us know what you think of his efforts.—PL.

* * * * *

Dear Paul,

In a letter to Murray Boltinoff I suggested that his war books are generally ignored by fandom because they are devoid of Adams, et al, art, super-heroes and fist-fighting. However, the general readership continues to support the Boltinoff books while they ignore the super-duper stuff. SGT. ROCK and G.I. COMBAT will probably continue selling long after AQUAMAN and STEEL have gone to their graves.

I buy the war books for the realistic stories, especially by Kanigher whose contribution to the industry has yet to be appreciated by fandom, for the special artwork of Grandinetti and Kubert, and for the short story format and the theme.

Thanks to you and your fellow war editors for consistently providing such enjoyable entertainment.

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And thanks for the support!—Paul Levitz.

* * * * *

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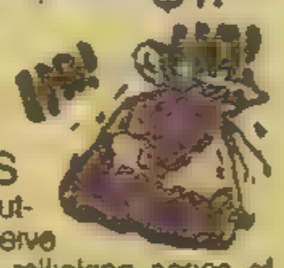

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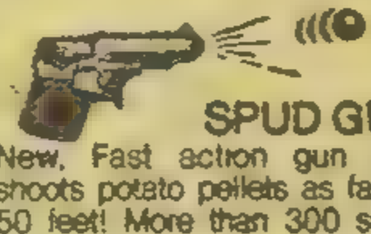

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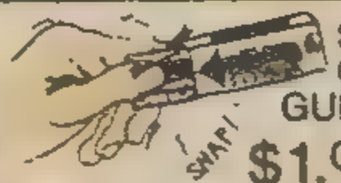

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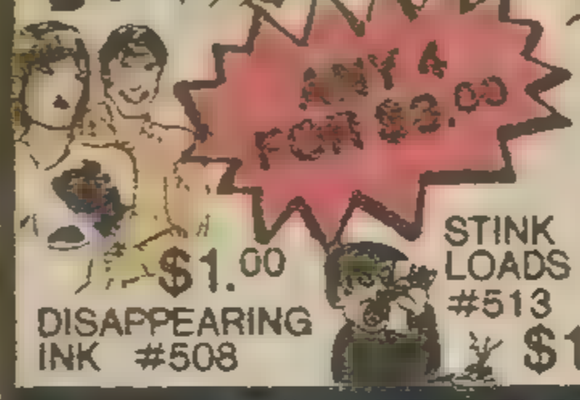

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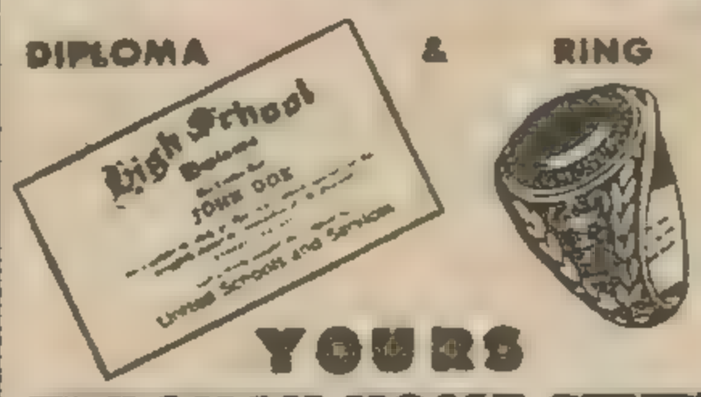

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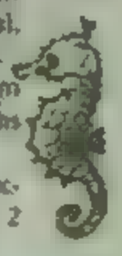

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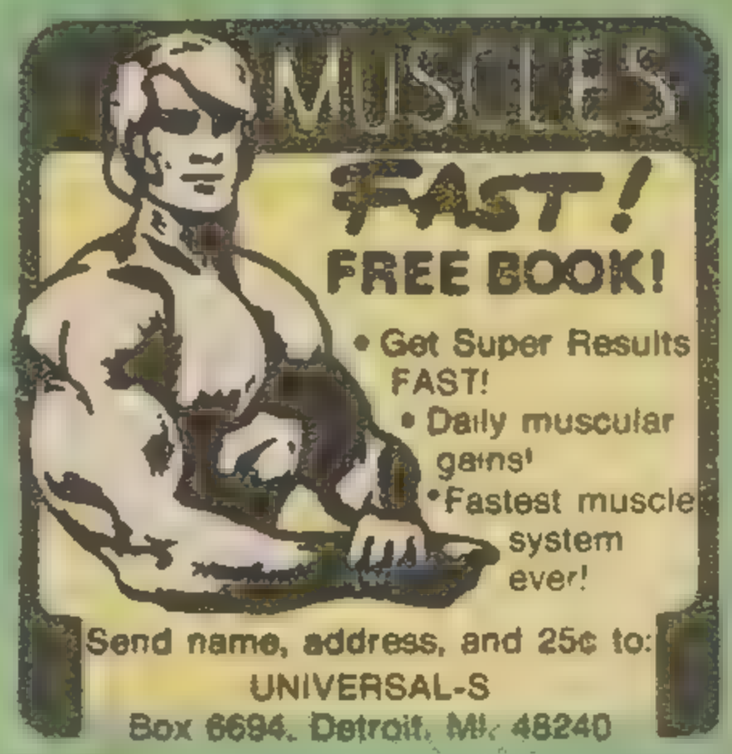

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J-5388

I DIVE THE FOKKER UNTIL ITS WIRES WHINE AND ITS STRUTS SHUDDER IN PROTEST...

WHOOO

I LOSE MY QUARRY AS I BREAK THROUGH THE CLOUDS...FAR BELOW ME IS A BURGUNDIAN CASTLE...

I'M IN *FRANCE--ENEMY* TERRITORY!

SUDDENLY, MY 110 H.P. OBERURSEL SPLUTTERS AND FALLS SILENT...

I AM NOT ONLY OUT OF *FUEL*... BUT--

--THE FRENCH PILOT CIRCLED *BACK*--HE IS IN THE *KILL* POSITION! THE LEGEND COMES *TRUE!* THE LOSS OF THE VON HAMMER *BANNER* MEANS *MY* FINISH ALSO!

HE IS SIGNALING ME TO *LAND!*

WHY DOES HE NOT MAKE AN EASY KILL?

I MAKE A DEAD-STICK LANDING IN A CLEARING NEAR THE CASTLE, WITH THE FRENCHMAN CLOSE BEHIND ME...

THE CASTLE HAS A *PRIVATE HANGAR!*

WE BOTH LEAVE OUR COCKPITS... WATCHED BY ARMED MECHANICS...

BARON HANS VON HAMMER--AT YOUR SERVICE!

I *KNOW* WHO YOU ARE, BARON! THAT'S WHY I HAD ONE OF MY RETAINERS STEAL YOUR *ANCESTRAL BANNER!*

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO ENSURE THIS *RENDEZVOUS* ON THE *GROUND!*

BARON--FOR *CENTURIES* YOUR FAMILY AND MINE HAVE *FOUGHT* TO THE *DEATH!*

YOU AND I ARE THE *LAST* OF OUR LINES! IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT WE *FINISH* THE FIGHT BY THE RULES OF *CHIVALRY* --INSTEAD OF THIS *BARBARIC WAR!*

I AM *COMTE DE BURGUNDY*-- AT YOUR SERVICE!

YOU *WOULDN'T* WISH ME TO HAND THE *BANNER* TO YOU AS IF YOU WERE A *BEGGAR*-- WITHOUT ALLOWING YOU TO *PROVE* YOUR WORTH TO *REGAIN* IT?

OF COURSE NOT, COUNT!

BARON VON HAMMER-- MY *SISTER* HELOISE!

ENCHANTÉ, COUNTESS!

SHE *HATES* GERMANS SINCE HER *TWIN BROTHER* HENRI WAS *KILLED* IN A CAVALRY CHARGE AGAINST YOUR ULHANS! A NOBLE DEATH, BARON!

SHE WILL BE OUR *HOSTESS* AT DINNER!

I LOOK *FORWARD* TO IT, COUNT!

LET US EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY TONIGHT, BARON!

TOMORROW, AT DAWN, *ONE* OF US MUST *DIE!*

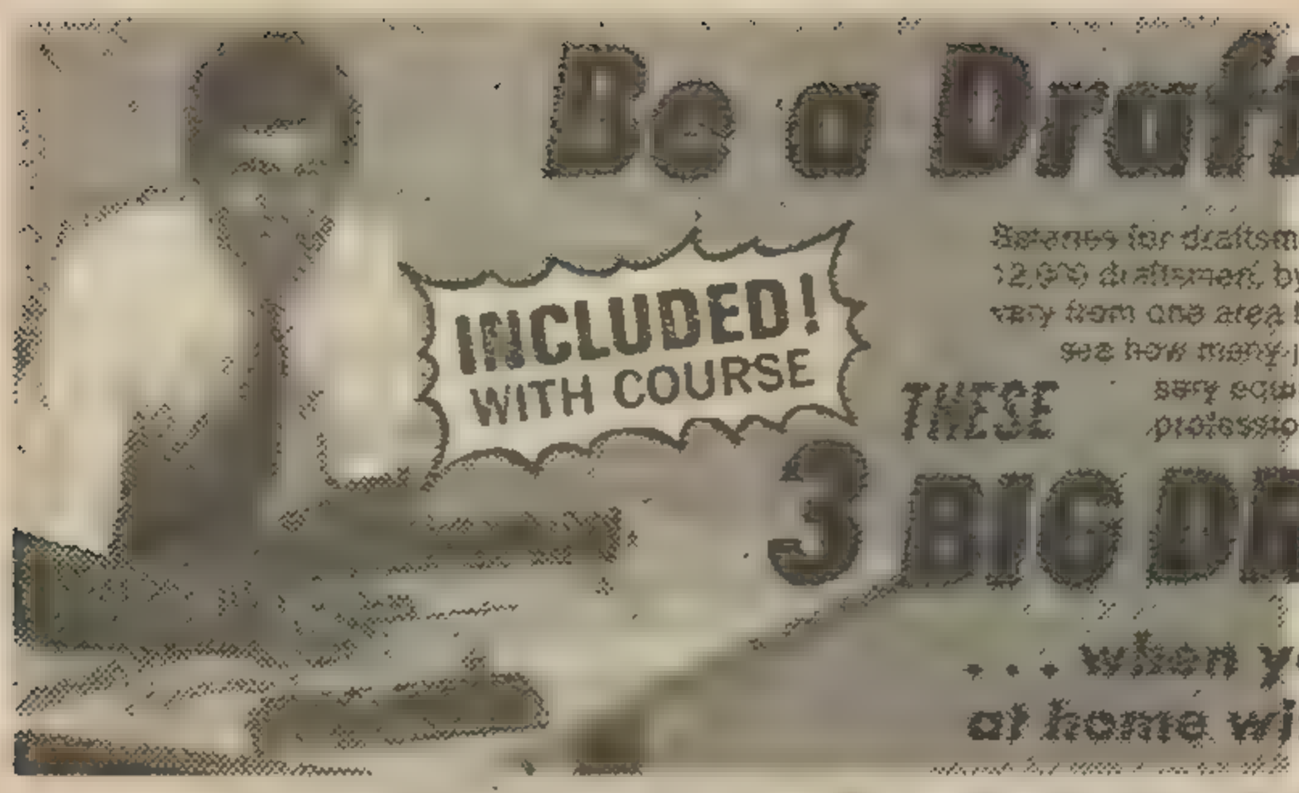
I AM AT YOUR *SERVICE*, COUNT!

EXCELLENT VICHYSSOISSE, COUNTESS! *MY COMPLIMENTS!*

AT NIGHT, I BROOD SLEEPLESSLY... UNABLE TO GET THE RAVEN-HAIRED BEAUTY OUT OF MY MIND...

4

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING



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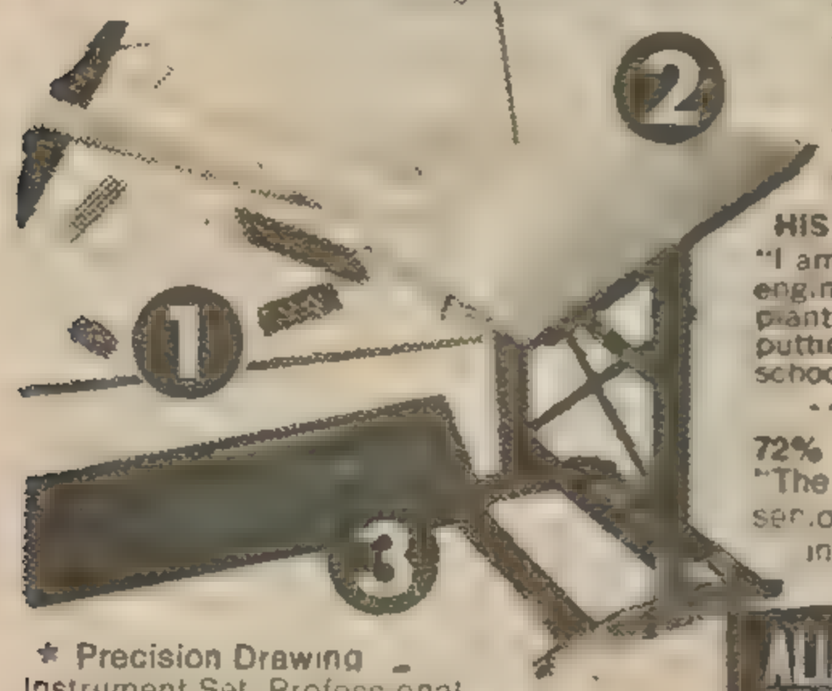

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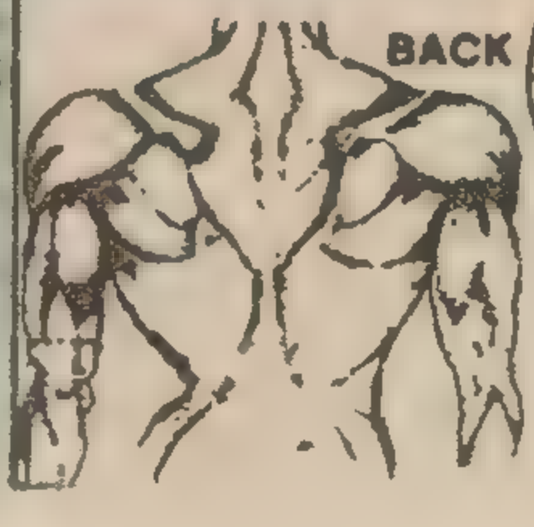

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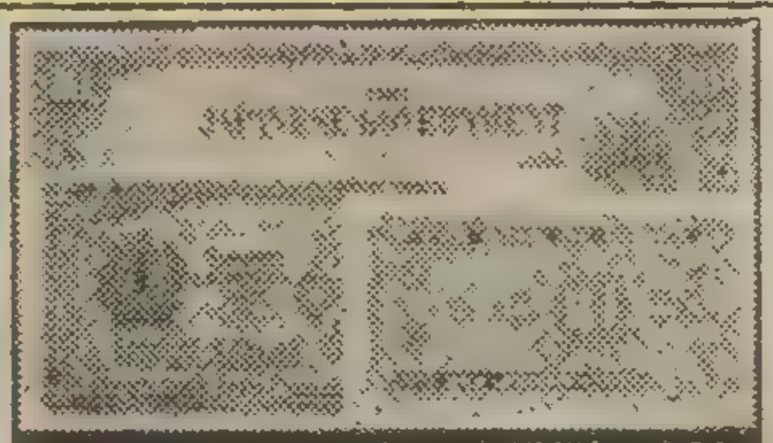

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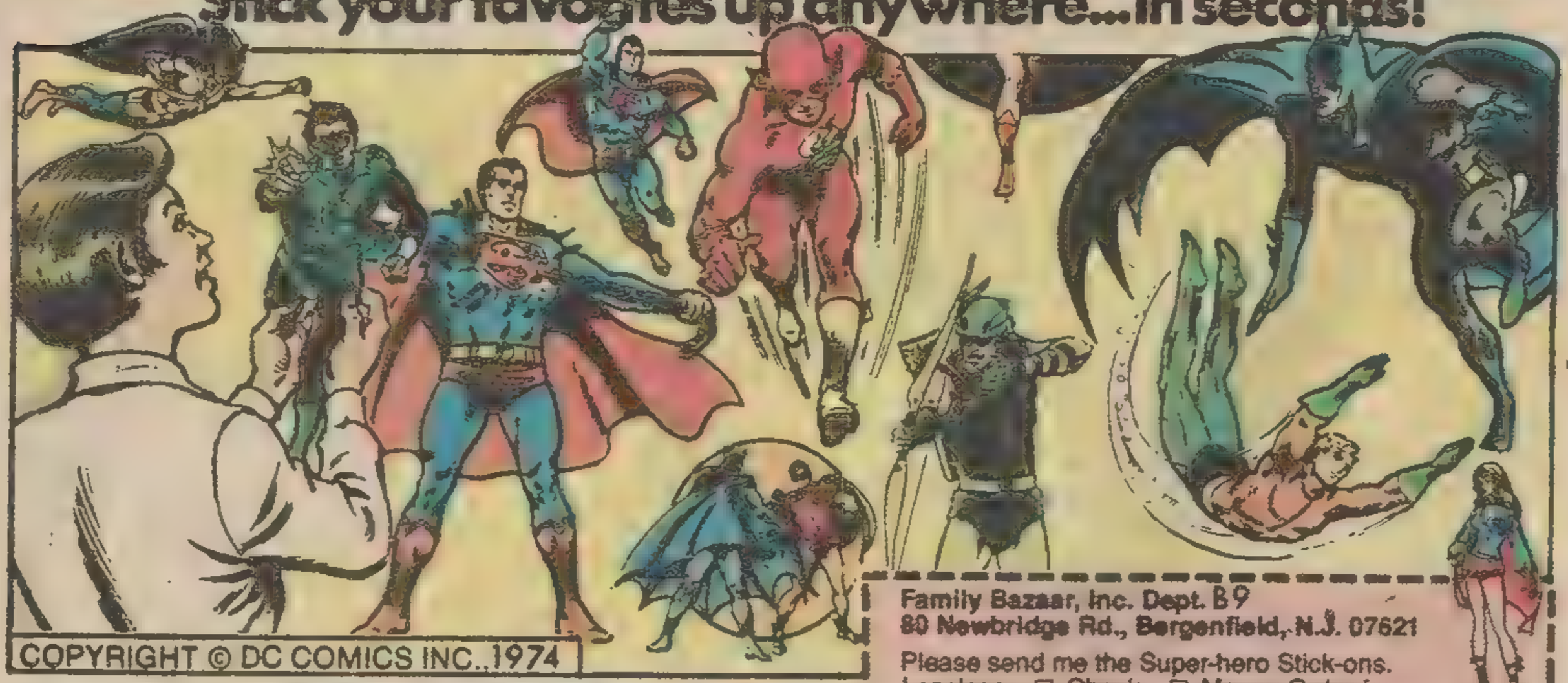

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AT DAWN... WITH THE COUNTESS AS THE SOLE WITNESS, THE COUNT AND I FACE EACH OTHER WITH SABRES...

START THE *DUEL* AT THE COUNT OF *THREE* WHEN I DROP MY SCARF!

UNE... DEUX... TROIS!

KLANNGG KLUUNNGG

THE COUNT IS QUICK AS A CAT...

HE DREW FIRST *BLOOD!*

TZLIING

KLAANNNG

I PARRY HIS NEXT LIGHTNING THRUST TO RETURN A RIPOSTE...

MY *HEART* AWAITS YOUR TOUCHÉ, BARON!

LUNGE--AND FLY HOME *SAFELY* WITH YOUR *BANNER!*

THUDD..

SILENTLY, THE COUNTESS BINDS MY WOUND.. HER TOUCH COOL AS HEALING BALM...

MERCI, COUNTESS!

WHEN I HAVE RESTED, THE COUNT AND I PREPARE A NEW DUEL...

EACH OF YOU HAS *ONE* BULLET! IF ONE OF YOU SHOULD *MISS*, HE MUST *STAND* AND *RECEIVE* HIS OPPONENT'S *SHOT*! *FIRE* AT THE COUNT OF *THREE*!

UNE... DEUX... TROIS...

THE COUNT BEATS ME TO THE DRAW... HIS BULLET FLAMES INTO MY SHOULDER...

GRAACK

YOUR SHOT, BARON!

CRAACK!

THE COUNTESS TEARS A STRIP FROM HER PETTICOAT AND BINDS MY SHOULDER WITH COOL FINGERS...

TODAY, YOU WILL REST, BARON! TOMORROW, WE WILL RENEW OUR DUEL IN A MANNER WHICH WILL GUARANTEE DEATH TO THE LOSER!

IF-- YOU ARE ABLE TO *CONTINUE!*

AT YOUR SERVICE, COUNT!

END OF PART TWO! THE STARTLING CLIMAX TO "BANNER OF BLOOD" IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

EXTRA DAILY PLANET™ EXTRA

VOLUME 78 ISSUE 44 WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 1978 BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR ANTHONY TOLLIN: PRODUCTION

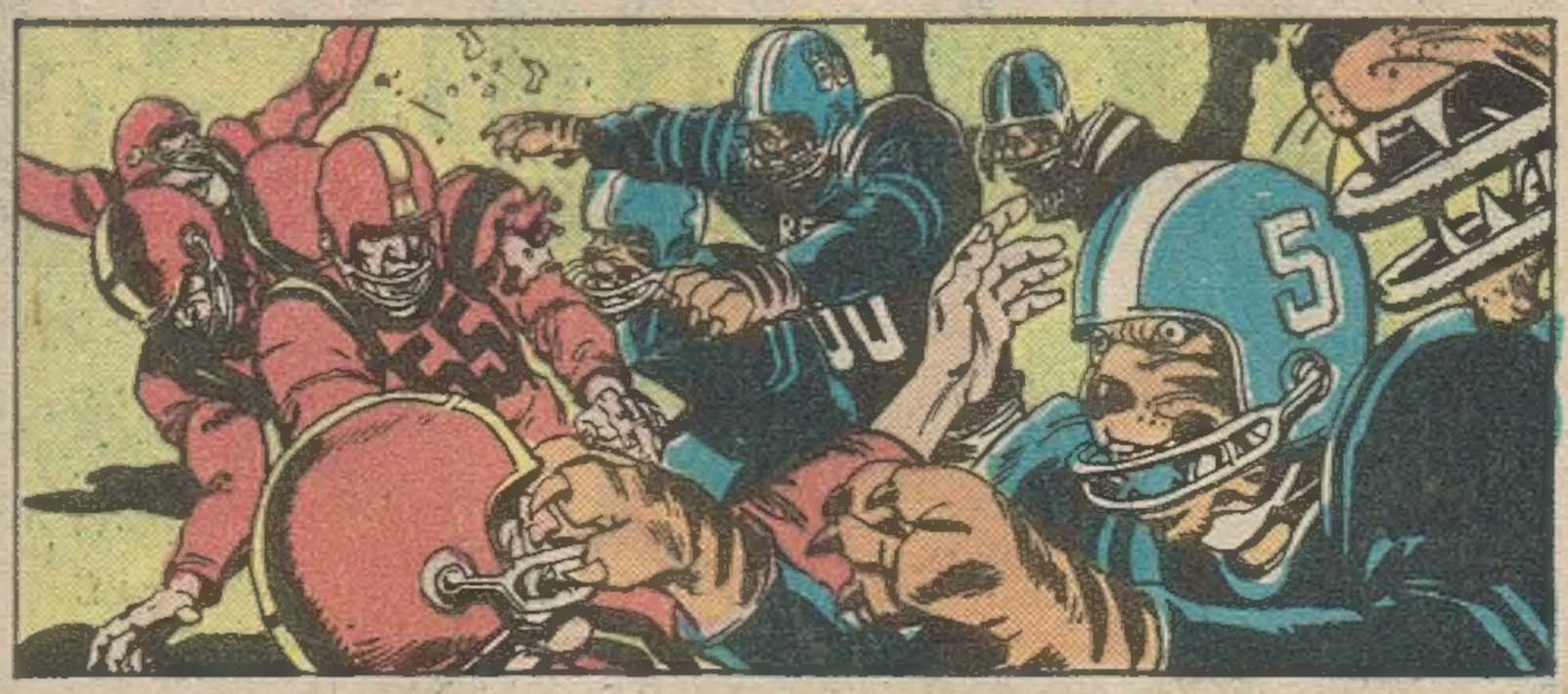
FOOTBALL FRIGHT!

DOUBLE-FRIGHT FEAST IN LATEST HOUSE OF MYSTERY!

(Pittsburg, Pa.)—When the Pittsburg Bengals play football, the game suddenly becomes more than a simple contest—it becomes a nightmare of slaughter for the opposing team! What sinister force is behind the team's overnight transformation from a pack of losers to a murderous mob? And can anything hope to overcome the supernatural power which controls the Bengals? Read "Illegal Procedure" by Michael Uslan, Nancy Osher and Fred Carillo in *HOUSE OF MYSTERY* #265.

Also in that issue: What does it take to be "The Perfect Host"? Ellis Grant thought he knew—until he decided to kill two of his guests

Be sure to pick up a copy of *HOUSE OF MYSTERY* #265 when it goes on sale the week of November 27th.



GREEN LANTERN STARS IN SPECIAL HOLIDAY ADVENTURE

(DC, New York)—Can *Green Lantern* be the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy? That's what the people of an isolated mountain town believe in a special holiday story in the latest issue of *GREEN LANTERN/GREEN ARROW*.

"That They May Fear No More" also stars *Green Arrow* and *Black Canary* in an action-filled tale by Denny O'Neil, Alex Saviuk and Dave Hunt.

Don't miss this incredible tale in *GREEN LANTERN / GREEN ARROW* #113, on sale the week of November 27th.

ASK THE ANSWER MAN

Q: Were there any adventures of *Superboy* which showed him between being Superbaby and *Superteen*?—Tom Trent. *A*. Some of the earliest *Superboy* stories had him in his preteen years.

Q: Why does *Superman* always fall out of the sky when he sees kryptonite?—Chester Brown. *A*: Kryptonite drains him of his powers, including the ability to fly.

Q: How long is *Superman's* life-span?—Mark West. *A*: From the day of his birth to the day he dies.

Q: How did Wally West become *Kid Flash*?—Ed Dade Jr *A*. In a fluke reoccurence of the incident that made Barry Allen *The Flash*—lightning striking a shelf full of chemicals.

Q: Why isn't *Steel* in the *Justice Society*?—No Name Given. *A*: He wasn't asked to join.

Q: Do *Superman, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman* and *Flash* of the two Earths have the same villains?—Edward Wells. *A*: For the most part, no—though both *Supermen* have *Lex Luthor* as an enemy.

Q: Who was *Batman's* first enemy?—Paul Harahue. *A*: It would have to be Joe Chill, the gunman who killed Bruce Wayne's parents!

Q: Are you planning another *FIVE-STAR SUPER-HERO SPECTACULAR*?—Lawrence T Bridget. *A*. Not in the near future!

Q: Where did the original *Air Wave* appear?—Greg Roemer. *A*: IN *DETECTIVE COMICS* #'s 60-139.

Q: Who was the predecessor of Katma Tui as *Green Lantern* of Korugar?—Dennis Armstrong & Dan B. Webb. *A*: The renegade *GL, Sinestro*!

DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27th:

BRAVE & BOLD #147—The team-up you've demanded: *Batman* and *Supergirl* join forces to stop a laser cannon in the sky above Gotham City in "Death Scream From the Sky" by Cary Burkett and Jim Aparo.

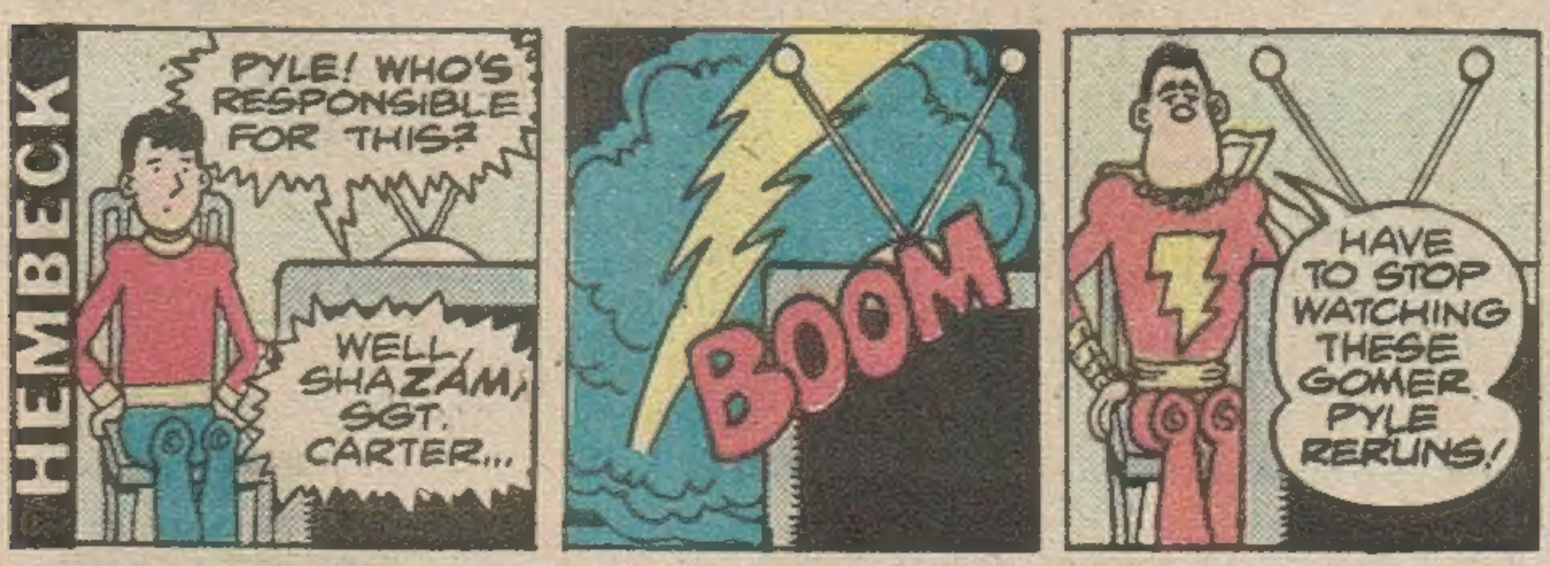
SGT ROCK #325—Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo send Rock and the combat-happy joes of Easy Company on another dangerous and deadly mission!

SUPERBOY & THE LEGION #248—Something is prowling the sewers below 30th century Metropolis as the *Legion* learns that "Beneath the Streets Lurks—Death" in this Gerry Conway/Joe Staton/Jack Abel collaboration.

SUPERMAN #332—The *Master Jailer* has trapped the Man of Steel in "The Eternity Cage" and only Martin Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte know how to get him out!

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:

BATMAN #308 / *DC COMICS PRESENTS* #6 (*Superman* and *Green Lantern*) / *DETECTIVE COMICS* (starring *The Batman Family*) #482 / *THE FLASH* #270 / *GHOSTS* #73 / *G.I. COMBAT* #212 / *JONAH HEX* #21 / *JUSTICE LEAGUE* #163 / *MEN OF WAR* #13 / *WEIRD WAR TALES* #72 / *WORLD'S FINEST COMICS* #255



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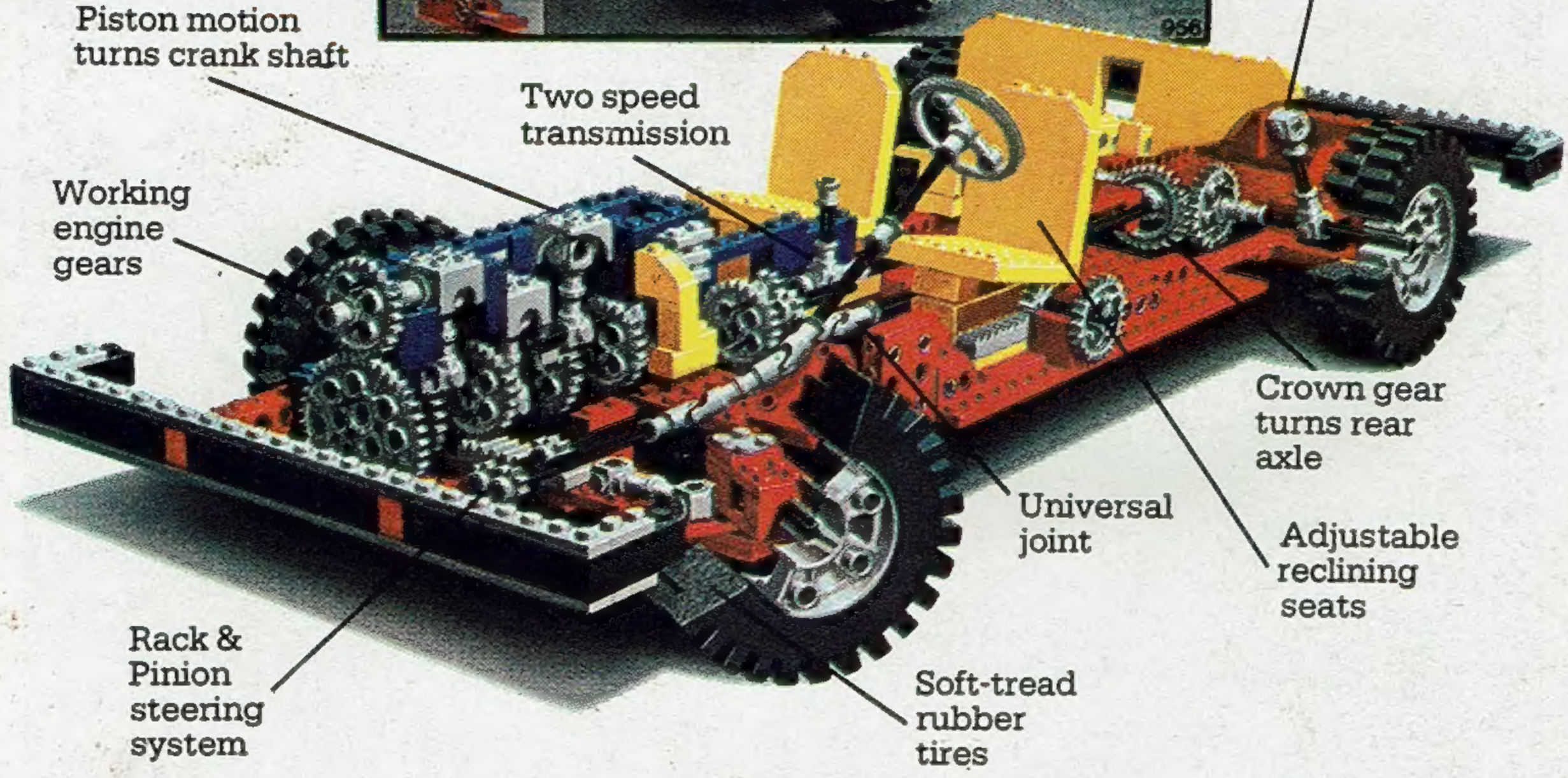

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